

# GREENBELT News Review

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15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

APRIL 10, 2008

## Council Meets in Worksession For Overview of 2009 Budget

by James Giese

Greenbelt City Manager Michael McLaughlin and City Treasurer Jeff Williams met with the city council in worksession on April 2 to provide an overview of the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2009 (FY09) and to review General Government budgets for the city's administrative services.

To aid in the review they provided handouts of revenue analysis and line item expense summaries for the proposed, current and past fiscal years. As submitted the proposed budget would hold expenses within the limit of projected revenues and would not increase the property tax rate.

While the tax rate may not go up, the budget estimates a healthy increase in the dollar amount of taxes to be collected in the new fiscal year due to the assessed valuation of Greenbelt property, anticipated to increase by 17 percent.

Most homeowners, including those residing in condominiums and cooperatives and who continue to live in the same home, can expect a 10 percent increase in their assessments and a 10 percent increase in their city tax bill, if the proposed budget is adopted

with no change in the tax rate.

Greenbelt property was reassessed last year by the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation with a three-year phase-in of the new assessments. Because property values had skyrocketed, nearly all homes were reassessed with an increase of more than 30 percent. However, under the Homestead Tax Credit program, the maximum phase-in assessment increase in any one year is limited to 10 percent on any home that is the owner's primary residence.

McLaughlin estimates that the increased cost for taxpayers with a 10 percent assessment increase will be \$118 a year for a currently valued \$150,000 home, \$157 for a \$200,000 home, \$236 for a \$300,000 home and \$314 for a \$400,000 home.

A state program provides grants for eligible lower income homeowners to limit the amount owed for property tax. This year the city has piggybacked onto this program to give credits on city taxes. Persons seeking these grants need only apply to the state; if approved by the state, owners will automatically

receive the city grant as well. GHI homeowners are also eligible for these grants, according to Williams.

Property tax is the one significant revenue source that council can change in the budget. The yield of a one-cent property tax levy for FY09 is estimated to be \$193,700. This means that for every penny council might raise the property tax rate for 2009, it could authorize additional expenditures of \$193,700.

On the other hand, should council decide to cut budget expenditures, it could reduce the tax rate by a penny for each \$193,700 in cuts from the budget. Similarly, if the city were able to find new revenues before budget adoption, council could reduce the tax rate.

### Undesignated Fund

McLaughlin does not propose spending all funds on hand in the new year. He recommends that an amount equal to 10 percent of the budget be kept in reserve to meet any unforeseen shortfall in revenues or unbudgeted expenditure. While 10 percent

See **BUDGET**, page 6

## Greenbelt Crime Figures Are Up But Robbery Numbers Decline

by James Giese

Year-end police crime data for the Greenbelt Police Department provides a mixed bag of information – some good, some bad. Overall, crime for the year was up by almost seven percent from the previous year, reversing a downward trend during the last three years.

However, the number of robberies, which had been increasing in each of the previous four years, was down 16.5 percent in 2007 compared to 2006. Crimes against persons were also down for the second year in a row, although this time by less than one percent. The four Class I crime offense categories for crimes involving persons are murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assaults. Class I crimes are the most serious crimes.

All three categories of Class I property crimes – breaking and entering, larceny and motor vehicle theft – were up significantly this year over the previous year. However, the numbers were still well below the peak year for these crimes.

The Police Department's Public Safety 2007 in Review analysis is included in the printed proposed budget for the fiscal year 2008-2009 document. It

compares Greenbelt data to those for the Washington Metropolitan region of Montgomery and Prince George's County provided by the Uniform Crime Reporting Program of the Maryland State Police.

For the region, 2007 crime was down 3.3 percent compared to Greenbelt's 6.9 percent increase. Crimes against persons decreased by one percent in Greenbelt and by 10 percent in the region. Property crimes increased by 8.5 percent in Greenbelt while a decrease of less than one percent was noted for the region.

Greenbelt West, the policing area of the department that includes Springhill Lake and Beltway Plaza, impacted significantly the changes in Greenbelt crime data. The analysis credits the decrease in robberies to the robbery suppression details and directed patrol tactics that resulted in investigators and officers making significant arrests during the year.

### By Area

The analysis also reported a 30 percent decrease in robberies in Greenbelt West for the year but a 24 percent increase in property crimes. The number of

reported stolen autos increased by 27 percent and breaking and enterings by 52 percent.

Of crimes reported, 195 took place in Greenbelt Center, 549 were in Springhill Lake, 14 were at the Greenbelt Metro site, 351 were in Greenbelt East and 254 were at Beltway Plaza.

The public safety analysis states: "As reported in the latest published edition of the annual state Uniform Crime Report (June 1, 2007), the crime rate for Maryland was 4.1 victims for every 1,000 population. The rate [for] Prince George's County was 6.9 per 1,000. Greenbelt's rate was 6.0 per 1,000."

Closer inspection of all jurisdictions within the county shows generally that jurisdictions inside the Beltway have a greater crime rate than those outside. Greenbelt's rate has historically fallen in the middle, reflecting the impact of regional forces.

### Other Data

At 40,083 the number of calls for police service in the past year was 45 percent greater than for 2003 and also greater than that of any of the other preceding years. However, the number of reports

See **CRIME**, page 8



PHOTO BY JASON ALDAG

Participants of the University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center's Pedestrian Safety Workshop: Focus on Seniors take an exploratory walk of Greenbelt.

## Pedestrian Safety Program Gets Tryout in Greenbelt

by Jason Aldag

Members of the Greenbelt community, along with representatives from the Greenbelt City Council, Public Works and the Police Department, took part in an inaugural pilot workshop for pedestrian safety at the Greenbelt Community Center on Monday, April 7. Funded by the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration and designed by the Highway Safety Research Center at the University of North Carolina, the Pedestrian Safety Workshop: Focus on Seniors aims to offer in-depth safety instruction for pedestrians and create a dialogue between the community, policy makers and public servants according to program officials.

"The goal is for users of the program to work with agencies that can help them make it easier to walk, to look at all perspectives to make improvements and have the decision makers in the community sitting with the citizens who have needs," said Lau-

ren Marchetti, manager of the Highway Safety Research Center. "We've done workshops all over the country and this is as good as it gets," she said of the turnout for the workshop. "With this kind of [government] representation, you know the community is ready."

Greenbelt Mayor Judith F. Davis, who attended the workshop, noted that even though the city was designed with pedestrians in mind, there was a need for safer sidewalks, more sidewalks and safer crosswalks. "We need to do more," she said.

"We think a great deal about how to help pedestrian and bicycle safety. It's good to hear from seniors," Davis said.

### Crosswalks

Greenbelt has implemented designs that offer a safer pedestrian experience by installing enhanced crosswalks in the areas of Ridge

See **SAFETY** page 12

## What Goes On

**Saturday, April 12**

**9 a.m. to Noon**, Donation Drop-off, Parking Lot between City Offices and Community Center

**Sunday, April 13**

**Noon**, Little League Opening Day Parade, Starts at the Aquatic and Fitness Center Parking Lot (see story on page 2)

**Monday, April 14**

**7:30 p.m.**, Recycling and Environment Advisory Committee, Community Center

**8 p.m.**, Regular City Council Meeting, Municipal Building

**Wednesday, April 16**

**7:30 p.m.**,

Advisory Planning Board, Community Center, Room 103

**7:30 p.m.**,

Park and Recreation Advisory Board, Community Center

**8 p.m.**, Budget Worksession on Misc. and Other Funds, Capital Projects, Community Center

**Thursday, April 17**

**7:30 p.m.**, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Community Center

**Multipurpose Room**

**Saturday, April 19 – Earth Day Activities** (see ad on page 5)

**10 a.m. to Noon**, Earth Day

**Noon**, Arbor Day Tree Planting

**12:15**, Tree Tour

# Community Events

## Davis Pitch Opens Baseball Season

Greenbelt Baseball will be having its Opening Day Parade Sunday, April 13 beginning at noon. The parade will start at Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center and proceed out Southway to McDonald's Field. The parade will consist of the Major League, Machine Pitch and Tee-Ball levels. Come out to support the youth of Greenbelt. The Opening Day game will be between last year's champion Indians and runner-up Giants, beginning at 1 p.m. at McDonald's Field.

Come watch Mayor Judith Davis throw the first pitch of the game!

## Walk to Promote Arthritis Awareness

This year's Fifth Annual Arthritis Walk fundraiser will be held on Saturday, May 10 at Eleanor Roosevelt High School. The three-mile (or one-mile) course will open at 10 a.m., with registration beginning at 9 a.m. This year's special child honoree is Tre'von Childs, an 11-year-old sixth grader with arthritis who will be at the event along with his family.

The Sir Walter Raleigh restaurant will donate a portion of its 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. sales on Monday, April 14 and Tuesday, May 6.

### Walkers Needed

There is no registration fee; however, participants are urged to raise a minimum of \$100 in order to receive a commemorative 2008 Arthritis Walk T-shirt. Special prizes are available for those who raise \$200 or more.

Proceeds from the event fund research, foster greater public awareness and ensure that better programs and treatments are available for people with arthritis, including the one in four adults locally diagnosed. The Arthritis Walk is the Arthritis Foundation's signature event and takes place in over 350 communities nationwide during May, which is National Arthritis Awareness Month.

The Arthritis Foundation, Metropolitan Washington Chapter has been serving the District of Columbia, Northern Virginia, Prince George's County and Montgomery County for 56 years. To learn more about the Arthritis Walk visit [www.arthritis.org](http://www.arthritis.org), call Christina Thomas at 202-537-6800 ext. 3016 or email [cthomas@arthritis.org](mailto:cthomas@arthritis.org).

## Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition "Food and Friendship" program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center. Meals need to be reserved by 11 a.m. the previous day to assure sufficient quantities of food are ordered. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215 for information about the program and to make reservations.

Meals are served beginning at noon. All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and one percent milk. Menus for April 14 through 18 include:

Monday - Split pea soup with crackers, baked Tilapia fish with tartar sauce, home fried potatoes, chopped collards, fresh orange.

Tuesday - Orange juice, meatballs (six each) and spaghetti with tomato sauce, mixed vegetables tossed salad with dressing, canned pears.

Wednesday - Minestrone soup with crackers, turkey cutlet with gilet gravy, mashed potatoes, broccoli, lemon parfait.

Thursday - Cranapple juice, baked chicken leg with gravy, black beans, chopped kale, canned peaches.

Friday - Orange-pineapple juice, sliced roast beef with mushroom gravy, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, oatmeal raisin cookies (two).

## Astronomical Star Parties April 12, 13

On Saturday, April 12 Astronomical Society members will hold a star party at Northway Field. On Sunday, April 13 a sidewalk astronomy party will be held at the Roosevelt Center near the New Deal Café. Members of the society will begin to set up to view the moon and other celestial objects at approximately 7:45 p.m. In the event of rain or hopelessly cloudy skies the events will be cancelled without further notice.

Details are available at [www.greenbelastro.org/events.shtml](http://www.greenbelastro.org/events.shtml).



Our sympathy to the family, friends and long-time companion Louise Swiderski on the death of Jim Cassels, one of Greenbelt's Outstanding Citizens.

Condolences to the family of Arthur E. Bittenbender of New Carrollton, who died March 31, 2008, at the age of 75. Art was a longtime member of Greenbelt American Legion Post #136. His wife Ann (Walker) Bittenbender is a Greenbelt pioneer.

### Congratulations to

- ERHS student Claudia Bucknor, on receiving a Riderwood scholarship toward college next year. In addition to school and working in Riderwood's food service, Claudia plays soccer, is on the Student Government Association and a member of Future Business Leaders of America.

- Kevin and Sarah Sandoval, who welcomed their first child, Henry Hilliard Sandoval on March 27, 2008, at 10:49 a.m. Henry weighed in at 8 lbs and 10 oz.

- Diane and Tim Grady of Greenbriar who welcomed new grandson, Donovan Wyatt Sosa, born March 11, 2008. Proud parents are Mary McGee-Sosa and Wilson Sosa of Manassas, Va. Donovan joins Juliana Nicole, age 6 and Victor, age 4.

Send us your reports of new babies, awards, honors, etc. to share with our readers. We'd especially like to hear more from our neighbors in Greenbelt East and Springhill Lake. To send information for "Our Neighbors" email us at [newsreview@greenbelt.com](mailto:newsreview@greenbelt.com) or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

- Kathleen McFarland

## Grin Belt



AGNES CONATY ©2008

"The Beijing Restaurant would be a much better site for the Olympics."

## On Screen

### "Flawless" Stars Caine

"Flawless," set in 1960s London, stars Demi Moore and Michael Caine as two disgruntled employees of the London Diamond Corporation who take a creative approach to profit-sharing. This heist movie in the classic vein, now showing at the Old Greenbelt Theatre, gives Caine the opportunity to return to the type of role that launched his career (e.g., "The Italian Job").

Director Michael Radford most recently directed Al Pacino as Shylock in "The Merchant of Venice;" he also directed "Il Postino," which was nominated for several Oscars. Rated PG-13 for a little strong language, this film runs 108 minutes.

- Cathy Jones

## Postal Services Available

Limited postal services are now available in the Municipal Building Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## Correction

In the article on autism awareness in last week's issue, the location of a planned informational meeting should have read: The ARC of Prince George's County, 1401 McCormick Drive in Largo. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 15 at 6:30 p.m.

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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### CIRCULATION

Core of Greenbelt: Ian Tuckman 301-459-5624  
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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eileen Farnham, president; James Giese, vice president; Diane Oberg, treasurer; Pat Davis, secretary; Virginia Beauchamp, Judy Bell and Thomas X. White.

DEADLINES: Letters, articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$35/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

**OLD GREENBELT THEATRE**  
**WEEK OF APR. 11**

**Flawless**  
(PG-13)

Friday  
\*5:15, 7:30, 9:40

Saturday  
\*3, \*5:15, 7:30, 9:40

Sunday  
\*3, \*5:15, 7:30

Monday - Thursday  
\*5:15, 7:30

\*These shows at \$6.00  
301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745  
129 Centerway  
[www.pgtheatres.com](http://www.pgtheatres.com)

**an outdoor music festival.**

.the points .parthenon huxley. .arthur loves plastic.

.play with me. .educated consumers.

.the able birds. .the male gaze.

.bellflur. .dj muramasa & synz. ...and more ...

**CRAZY QUILT**

.at the new deal café. .in roosevelt center.

.saturday, april 19. .11am – 9pm.

[www.crazyquiltfestival.com](http://www.crazyquiltfestival.com)

Sponsored by the Friends of New Deal Café Arts with support from the City of Greenbelt.

# Community Events

## At the Library

### Storytimes

A librarian will read age-appropriate stories:

Tuesday, April 15, 10:30 a.m., Cuddletime for newborns to 17 months old with caregiver, limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, April 16, 10:30 and 11 a.m., Toddler time for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver, limit 15 children for each group.

Thursday, April 17, 10:30 a.m., Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5, limit 20 children.

Caregivers are asked to pick up a free ticket at the Children's Desk.

### Adult Book Discussion

Wednesday, April 16, 7 p.m. A librarian will lead a discussion of Bill Bryson's "The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid."

## GHI Notes

### Scheduled Meetings:

**Sunday, April 13**, 11 a.m. – Pre Purchase Orientation, Board Room

Noon – GHI Volunteer Committees Appreciation Luncheon, Greenbelt Fire House

**Wednesday, April 16**, 7 p.m. – Woodlands Committee, GHI Lobby

7 p.m. – Finance Committee, Board Room

**Thursday, April 17**, 7 p.m. – Sustainable Design and Practices Committee, Board Room

**Tuesday, April 22**, 8:30 a.m. – Ad-hoc Yard Line Committee, GHI Library

**Wednesday, April 23**, 7:30 p.m. – Companion Animal Committee, GHI Lobby

**Thursday, April 24**, 7:30 p.m. – Board of Directors Regular Meeting, Board Room

Committee and board meetings are open; members are encouraged to attend.

Note: The 2008 board meeting schedule has been changed to the second and fourth Thursdays through May.

## Explore Mind Body Connection April 18

Explorations Unlimited will host a presentation by Nancy Shaffer on Friday, April 18 on the Mind Body Connection. She will lead a discussion about how physical exercise, one's thoughts, and energy affect one's state of health and attitudes toward life. Shaffer is currently an adjunct faculty member at the Prince George's Community College working with the Senior Fitness program. She also teaches with the Behavioral Health program at Kaiser Permanente, which includes classes on managing stress, dealing with depression and problem solving for couples. Shaffer is a counselor and Healing Touch practitioner.

Explorations Unlimited is held every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. This presentation will be held in the Senior Classroom, Room 114. Everyone is welcome to attend and questions are encouraged. Call 301-397-2208 for more information.

Send in information about your organization's activities for the Community Events page.

## Greenbrier II Elects Board of Directors

Greenbrier Phase II had its annual meeting March 11, electing the following board for the coming year: Gary Thomas, president; Jacqueline Gray, first vice president; Sherre Washington, secretary; Linda Kulle, treasurer; and Mary Blizard, director.

Board meetings are held monthly at the community building. Greenbrier Phases I and II meet the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Greenbrier Phase III meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. Greenbrier Community Association Board meetings are held the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. Owners and residents are encouraged to attend.

## GIVES Meeting Saturday, April 19

The quarterly meeting of GIVES (Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Service) will be held on Saturday, April 19 at 10 a.m. in Room 114 of the Greenbelt Community Center. New members are always welcome.

## New Deal Update

by Don Comis

Although kitchen construction – mainly installing a stove – has forced the New Deal Café to close for a short time, Chef Karim and Maria Kmaisha have promised to cook up another feast for the Café's April 19 music festival in Roosevelt Center.

They have already made improvements to the Café, from tiling bathroom floors and the wine bar counter top to adding a 45-bottle wine cooler below the bar.

Many of the Mediterranean foods the Karims will serve at the music festival, rivaling the banquet they gave last month, will likely be on the Café's new menu when the restaurant opens for good.

And it will be good – it will include American and Italian food, for example, as well as Lebanese and other Mediterranean delights. Karim and Maria will hire a completely new staff but are also looking for dedicated volunteers to help them succeed.

## New Citizens to Be Sworn In at Armory

On Friday, April 18 at 11 a.m., 100 new American citizens will be sworn in at Greenbelt's National Guard Armory. American Legion Auxiliary National President Jan Pulvermacher-Ryan of Madison, Wisc., will be present for the swearing in.

For more community events, see page 2

## Holy Cross Thrift Store

Every Thursday 10 – 4 p.m.  
1st Saturday of the month  
10 – 2 p.m.  
Good, clean clothes for women, men and children!  
Shoes, jewelry, books, etc.

6905 Greenbelt Road  
Greenbelt, Md. 301-345-5111

## Greenbelt Greens Meet on April 14

The Greenbelt Greens will hold their monthly meeting on Monday, April 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the public meeting room at the Greenbelt police station, 550 Crescent Road.

The featured speaker will be Gordon Clark, 2008 candidate for the Green Party nomination for U.S. Congress in Maryland's eighth congressional district. Clark's campaign opposes the "disastrous, budget-busting way," calls for serious, intelligent action to save the planet from global warming and focuses on ways to build a green economy. After Clark's presentation and a question and answer period, there will be a report on efforts to recruit a strong 2008 Green Party candidate for U.S. Congress from the fifth congressional district.

Other items on the agenda will include the recent ACLU/NAACP letter which requested that council reconsider Greenbelt's system for electing city council, a report from the most recent monthly statewide Maryland Green Party Coordinating Council meeting and preparations for the statewide annual Green Assembly to be held on May 3 at Towson University.

The Greenbelt Greens are pledged to promoting nonviolence, social justice, grassroots democracy and the environment. All are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served.

For more information call Bob Auerbach at 202-722-4303 or John Stith at 301-486-4504.

## Choral Society Has Fundraiser

On Saturday, April 12 at 6 p.m., the Prince George's Choral Society will hold a silent auction and Italian dinner followed by a serenade. The musical organization's fundraising gala will be held at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, located at 6905 Greenbelt Road.

There is a fee. For more information or to reserve tickets call 301-336-8539 or email pgchoralsociety@aol.com.

The Choral Society will present its next concert on Saturday, May 4. New members may audition throughout the year and may attend the regular Monday rehearsals with advance notice.



Greenbelt Arts Center  
Presents

## Celtic Concert The Homespun Ceilidh Band

April 12, 8 p.m.  
Benefit Concert for the  
Greenbelt Arts Center

All tickets \$15.00  
No membership discounts.  
Cash or Check only  
Tickets available by reservation  
or at Box Office night of show  
301-441-8770 x8  
Roosevelt Center  
Located underneath the Co-op  
[www.greenbeltartscenter.org](http://www.greenbeltartscenter.org)

## Disabilities Group Meeting Is Sunday

The Greenbelt Disability Connection will hold its monthly meeting in Room 103 at the Community Center from 2 to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 13. The group will hear a speaker from Independence Now. Founded by people with disabilities, Independence Now provides services to promote independence and the inclusion of people with disabilities in their communities. Come with questions and find out how they might help or to learn about them.

There will also be a report from members who went to the state transportation conference held in Greenbelt last week and the pedestrian safety workshop held at the Greenbelt Community Center on April 7. There will be a discussion of the topics members would most like to cover in the future. Come to meet neighbors and make friends who share similar concerns.

## BCWWG Meets On April 15

On Tuesday, April 15 at 7 p.m., the Beaverdam Creek Watershed Watch Group (BCWWG) will hold its regular monthly meeting in the Media Room of the Greenbelt Elementary School (66 Ridge Road). The group will talk about its involvement in the Green Man Festival, the Reel and Meal Deal film showings as well as clean-up activities on Sunnyside.

There will also be a report about the recent macroinvertebrate identification in which several members participated. All are invited to come learn about and plan future activities while having fun.

**Smell Gas?**  
**(Sulfur or rotten eggs)**

Call Washington Gas Light  
800-752-7520 or 911

**Greenbelt Community Church**  
**Hillside & Crescent Roads**

## YARD SALE

**Baked Goods**  
**May 3**

**Hoagies for Lunch**  
**9:00am to 1:00pm**



**GREENBELT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
**SPRING FAIR!**

**APRIL 12, 2008 FROM 10 AM TO 2 PM**

**FOOD – GAMES – SCHOLASTIC BOOK SALE –**  
**CRAFTS – CAKE WALK – BIKE RODEO –**  
**SILENT AUCTION (bring cash!)**

**Greenbelt Nursery School**

## Silent Auction

**Saturday, May 3**

**1:30-4:00 pm Greenbelt Arts Center**

**\*\* Wine Tasting \*\* Appetizers \*\***

**\*\* Desserts by Chef Lou \*\***

**Tickets \$15**

**301-474-5570 or [gnsk@greenbelt.com](mailto:gnsk@greenbelt.com)**



**percussive acoustic worldbeat**

## KIVA

**in concert**

**Saturday April 19<sup>th</sup> at 9pm**  
**in the New Deal Café**

**Celebrate the magic of nature.**  
**Just after the Crazy Quilt Festival!**

**A benefit for the Friends of New Deal Café Arts (FONDCA)**  
**Tax-deductible Donation: \$10 for adults, \$5 for children age 6-17**

## Obituaries

### James J. Cassels

James Joseph Cassels, 92, Greenbelt's 1978 Outstanding Citizen, died in the early morning hours on Friday, April 4, 2008. Mr. Cassels is best known for his roles in establishing the now defunct Twin Pines Savings and Loan Association (with the late Bruce Bowman, Rexford G. Tugwell and others), Greenbelt CARES, the current Co-op supermarket and Green Ridge House, among many public service activities within the city and Prince George's County.

A memorial service is being planned by his five surviving children for Saturday, April 19 at 11 a.m., at the Greenbelt Community Church.

### Earth Stewardship At Paint Branch UUC

Honoring and caring for the earth will be the subject of a celebratory lecture event on Monday, April 21 at 7:30 p.m. at Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church.

Seeking to better understand both the science and solutions to climate change, the event will include speakers Ross Salawitch, Ph.D., a University of Maryland professor who will just have returned from a NASA Arctic field expedition and Holly Gorman from the Chesapeake Climate Action Network. Sponsored by the Network of Spiritual Progressives and the Social Action Committee of Paint Branch the evening will also include time for discussion with the speakers, as well as music from the "Missa Gaia - A Mass for Our Earth" and photographs of the earth both from space and of its ecosystems. Refreshments will be served and information provided about actions people can take to be better environmental stewards of the planet.

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church is located at 3215 Powder Mill Road in Adelphi. Driving directions are available at the website [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org).

### Good Samaritan Has Karaoke for PRISCM

Good Samaritan Lutheran Church will hold a karaoke night on Friday, April 18 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the church. This is a fundraising event for Partnership for Renewal in Southern and Central Maryland (PRISCM), a community-based program that addresses social concerns of communities. People are asked to come sing along and learn about the work of PRISCM. A free will offering will be collected.

Good Samaritan is located at 10110 Greenbelt Road in Lanham and can be reached by calling 301-794-7300, emailing [mygoodsam@comcast.net](mailto:mygoodsam@comcast.net) or visiting the website at [www.goodsamaritanlutheran.org](http://www.goodsamaritanlutheran.org).

## "Two for Life" Family Concert At Holy Cross on April 20

Two For Life team Jay and Jodi Marcum, a husband and wife musical duo from Nashville and former members of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, will present a family concert at the church on Sunday, April 20 beginning at 9:15 a.m.

Jay and Jodi share a love of music and also share the goal of giving people a new passion for living and infuse their audiences with a fresh joy in living for Jesus. "We've been told we have a real ministry of encouragement and that's exactly what we want to do," says Jodi.

With combined professional experience of over 60 years, Two For Life presents an array of musical styles through saxophone, piano and vocal music. Everything from the well-known to original music, from gospel to classical to jazz to inspiring hymns - their professional presentation, humor and witness will uplift listeners' hearts.

Two For Life has provided concert and worship music for churches and civic groups across the United States, Canada and Eastern Europe. "Our music has wide appeal for all ages and



all places," says Jay, "because we perform so many different styles."

Jay, a former U.S. Navy Band saxophonist, and Jodi, an accomplished vocalist and pianist, are also World Vision Artist Associates. They encourage their audiences to become involved with world missions and child sponsorship through the World Vision Christian relief organization and they offer an opportunity to sponsor a child at the close of their concert.

Their concert is offered without charge to the public. Details can be obtained by calling Bill Pichel at 301-537-1384.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church is located at 6905 Greenbelt Road.

### HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111

Sunday 8:15 am Worship Service  
9:15 am Sunday School/Bible Study  
10:30 am Worship Service



Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail [myholycross@verizon.net](mailto:myholycross@verizon.net)

¿Habla usted español? ¿Ha oido mencionar sobre La Fe Bahá'í? Le invitamos a participar en una reunión para presentar, en español,



### La Fe Bahá'í

Sábado, 12 de abril, 7:00 PM  
6829 Damsel Court, Greenbelt 20770

Llame al 301-513-0446 para saber como llegar  
<http://espanol.bahai.us/>



### St. George's Episcopal/Anglican Church

7010 Glenn Dale Road  
(Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)  
301-262-3285 | [rector@stgeo.org](mailto:rector@stgeo.org) | [www.stgeo.org](http://www.stgeo.org)

#### Sundays:

8:00 am Simple, quiet Mass  
9:00 am Christian education for all ages  
10:00 am Sung Mass with organ and folk music, ASL interpreted  
1:30 pm Signed Mass (last Sunday of each month only)

#### Wednesdays:

7:00 pm Simple, quiet Mass

An inclusive congregation!

### Learn About Islam

### GIVE THANKS

Every breath that we breathe is a blessing from God and we learn from the Prophet Solomon (peace be upon him) to recognize these blessings each day. The Holy Qur'an tells us how he never forgot to be thankful to God. He is quoted to have said, "This is by the grace of my Lord, to test me whether I am grateful or ungrateful! And if any is grateful, it is (a gain) for his own soul; but if any is ungrateful, truly my Lord is free of all needs, supreme in honor."

- The Holy Qur'an, 27:40

Count your blessings every day. For more information about gratefulness from an Islamic perspective, call 301-982-9463 or email [info@searchislam.org](mailto:info@searchislam.org) or visit [www.searchislam.org](http://www.searchislam.org).

### Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville/Adelphi

Phone: 301-937-3666 [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

April 13, 10 a.m.

"The Mystery Of Love"

by PBUUC Youth Group with Michael Leger, worship associate  
(Explore Love through Drama, Sharing and Song.)

Barbara W. and Jaco B. ten Hove, co-ministers



### Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open heart, Open minds, Open doors

[www.greenbeltumc.org](http://www.greenbeltumc.org) 301-474-9410

Rev. Dr. Paul C. Kim, Pastor

Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am

Prayer Meeting Sun. 10:00am



### Greenbelt Baptist Church

101 Greenhill Road  
Greenbelt, MD 20770 - (301) 474-4212  
[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)

Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School  
Sunday 11:00 am Worship Service  
Wednesday 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

ALL are Welcome!

"Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family Through Loving Service"

### ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
301-474-4322



#### Mass Schedule:

Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe

Pastoral Associate: Rev. R. Scott Hurd

### Greenbelt Community Church

#### UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Hillside & Crescent Roads

Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings

[www.greenbelucc.org](http://www.greenbelucc.org)

Sunday Worship

10:15 a.m.

Daniel Hamlin, Pastor

"A church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."



### Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Rabbi Jonathan Cohen Cantor Phil Greenfield

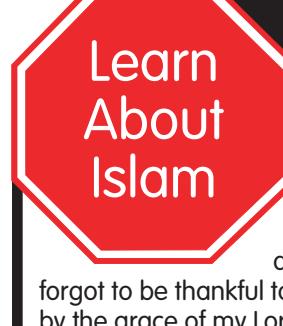
Friday evening services 8:00 PM

except first Friday of the month, when children's service begins at 7:30 PM

Saturday morning services - 9:30 AM

Children's Education, Adult Education, Social Action, etc.

For further information call 301 474-4223 [www.mishkantorah.org](http://www.mishkantorah.org)  
Conservative and Reconstructionist



### GIVE THANKS

Every breath that we breathe is a blessing from God and we learn from the Prophet Solomon (peace be upon him) to recognize these blessings each day. The Holy Qur'an tells us how he never forgot to be thankful to God. He is quoted to have said, "This is by the grace of my Lord, to test me whether I am grateful or ungrateful! And if any is grateful, it is (a gain) for his own soul; but if any is ungrateful, truly my Lord is free of all needs, supreme in honor."

- The Holy Qur'an, 27:40

### Hope Fellowship

... living life together

### Bible Study & Worship

9:30 "Good Morning!!" Coffee and Snacks  
10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Worship

Greenbelt Youth Center 99 Centerway

(Behind the Community Center)

April 13 - The Goodness of God

Psalm 145, Psalm 107

Pastor Lou Redd

301-474-4499 410-340-8242 (cell)

...living life together





## BUDGET continued from page 1

is the goal, the proposed budget anticipates an undesignated fund balance of 9.1 percent.

At this time last year, this undesignated fund balance was expected to be only 6.1 percent of the budget. However, McLaughlin estimates that the city will achieve a significant budget surplus this year – close to \$600,000 – that will bring the fund balance up.

No hard and fast rule exists as to what the undesignated fund balance should be. Prince George's County, which is much larger, has a three percent undesignated balance. Some other jurisdictions also keep their balance lower. McLaughlin, however, recommends 10 percent as the desirable cash reserve, an amount traditionally established for Greenbelt.

McLaughlin told council that when budget difficulties resulted in a reduction of this reserve to the six percent level, this problem was noted by the firms that evaluate and rate city bonds. Last year council approved McLaughlin's recommended plan to raise the amount of the undesignated reserve back to 10 percent, a fact also noted by the bond rating firms that kept the city's good bond rating intact.

### Other Revenues

McLaughlin noted that vacancies in office parks within the city will reduce revenue from the personal property tax, which is assessed against business furnishings and equipment. Two major tenants, Hewlett Packard and Northrup Grumman, have relocated their offices from Greenbelt to other jurisdictions. Hewlett

Packard's relocation has caused one entire office building to become vacant.

Staff also lowered expectations for income tax growth in the new year. The FY08 budget estimated a three percent growth in income. The FY09 budget estimates a two percent growth as a result of the current slower economy.

The proposed budget estimates the income from the 10 percent tax on motel rooms to be less than it was in FY07 but more than that estimated for the current year. McLaughlin notes that actual revenues for the first six months of this year have exceeded budget projections and that this revenue might be underestimated. However, the current economic slowdown could impact adversely on this revenue. Five hotels are now located within the city.

McLaughlin proposes increasing the residential refuse collection fee by \$4 a quarter to raise the annual fee to \$228. Comparable costs in other communities are reported to be \$392 in Rockville, \$310 in Prince George's County and \$345 in Montgomery County.

This proposed 7.5 percent rate increase is expected to yield \$38,200. Councilmember Leta Mach asked if there would be a fee for picking up extra large loads of trash, such as may occur when a home is cleaned out before being vacated. McLaughlin responded that staff had not yet been able to work out a fee basis for this service.

The Recreation Department revenue is expected to exceed this year's budget and is budgeted

four percent higher for the new year. Staff attributes this change to the raise in admission fees at the Aquatics and Fitness Center and the increase in participation for Creative Kids and Camp Pine Tree. A new program offered, a circus camp led by a former clown, is also proving a popular addition.

The Red Light Camera program is not resulting in fines equal to operating costs. McLaughlin estimates revenues at 90 percent of cost. Council has often stressed that the program is intended to make city streets safer, not to raise extra revenues.

### Expenditures

McLaughlin and Williams reviewed the Line Item Summaries worksheet with council, noting some significant changes in expenditures.

Part-time wages, primarily in the Recreation Department, have had to be increased after the increase in the federal minimum wage.

For the second year in a row, no increase is expected in health insurance costs. This projection is based on past city experience. A 10 percent decrease in the cost of prescription drug benefits for employees is also expected. This is a city self-insured program that has been working well for both the city and its employees.

City liability and property insurance and workers compensation are also expected to have lower rates based on good city experience, resulting in a \$150,000 budget reduction.

The city is locked into fixed prices for the purchase of electric-

## Garden Club to Hold Plant Sale Saturday

The first of two Beltsville Garden Club spring plant sales will be held on Saturday, April 12 from 8 a.m. to noon in the parking lot of High Point High School, 3601 Powder Mill Road in Beltsville.

The sale will include perennials, shrubs and trees. The second sale, on May 10 will include annuals, vegetables and herbs in addition to perennials, shrubs and trees.

For information call Geoff White at 301-937-1539 or visit [www.beltsvillegardenclub.org](http://www.beltsvillegardenclub.org).

## Friends School Holds Auction Fundraiser

On Saturday, April 12 Friends Community School will hold its annual fundraising auction and offer tours of the new eco-friendly green campus, with the largest known straw bale-insulated building in the world. The auction is the school's main fundraising event of the year, with all proceeds going to the scholarship fund.

Tours of the building will be held from 5 to 6 p.m., followed by a silent and live auction and a buffet dinner of tapas-style Mediterranean food and live music. The silent auction begins at 6 p.m. The theme for this year's auction is "Make New Friends, But Keep the Old," as the school welcomes members of the larger Greenbelt community in its first celebration at its new home.

Friends Community School, an independent Quaker school teaching students in grades K to 8, is located at 5901 Westchester Park Drive.

There is a fee for admission (see ad on page 12).

## Two-part Jazz Recital Features UM Students

On Tuesday, April 15 at 7:30 p.m. and at the same time on Wednesday, April 16, the UM School of Music presents a Chamber Jazz Recital in two parts. Chris Vadala directs the two-part concert featuring student jazz combos. The free recitals take place in Gildenhorn Recital Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.

# Some People Don't Smile in Pictures . . .

Ask yourself if any of these areas may be affecting the beauty of your smile:



- The color or shape of your teeth
- Spaces or missing teeth
- Noticeable cavities or old dental work
- Uneven or unhealthy gums

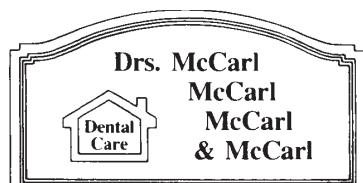
If so, come into the offices of the McCarl Dental Group for a complete and comprehensive evaluation.

Nicole Burgess of Severna Park had severely discolored teeth from a very early age. Throughout her life, Nicole had been self-conscious of her smile. In just three short weeks, the McCarl Dental Group gave Nicole a beautiful smile and a new start in life! Call the McCarl Dental Group to see if a smile makeover could change **your** life.



It's never too late to give yourself a beautiful smile. For over three generations the McCarl family has provided a full range of dental services to Greenbelt and the surrounding communities. In the past, cosmetic dentistry was only for the wealthy. Today, however, cosmetic dentistry is affordable and available to everyone. Give someone you love the gift of a smile!

Call us today for an appointment!  
301-474-4144



### Office Hours:

Monday	8-5
Tuesday	9-8:30
Wednesday	9-8
Thursday	8-4
Friday	8-3
Saturday	8-12

After Complimentary Initial Dental Exam  
(Value up to \$192) Includes necessary  
X-rays on day of examination.

**\$45.00**

New patients only.

Expires: 4/30/08

**Teeth Bleaching  
Special Only  
\$200.00**

Reg. \$500.00

Expires: 4/30/08

**McCarl Dental Group  
301-474-4144**

28 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770-0717



*“Your Local Full Service  
Community-Owned  
Supermarket & Pharmacy”*

121 CENTERWAY, ROOSEVELT CENTER

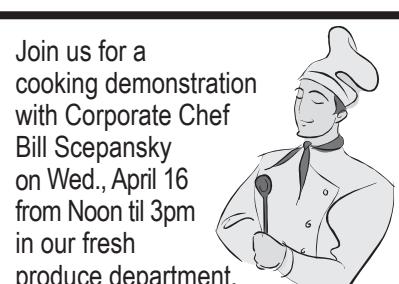
U.S. #1 Broccoli Crowns	<b>99¢</b> lb.	California Red Ripe Strawberries	<b>BUY ONE GET ONE FREE</b> 1 lb. pkg.
Fresh Cut & Peeled Baby Carrots 1 lb. bag	<b>\$1.00</b>	Fresh Grade A Baking Potatoes 5 lb.	<b>BUY ONE GET ONE FREE</b>
Fresh Fancy Crunchy Pears D'Anjou/Barlet	<b>\$1.00</b> lb.	Organic Bananas	<b>89¢</b> lb.

Fresh Lean Beef Value Pack Boneless New York Strip Steaks	<b>\$5.99</b> lb.	Fresh Shurfine Homestyle Roasting Chicken	<b>69¢</b> lb.	Fresh Value Pack 80% Lean Ground Beef	<b>\$1.69</b> lb.	Fresh Lean Boneless Pork Sirloin Chops	<b>\$1.29</b> lb.
Fresh Value Pack Chicken Legs/Thighs/Drumsticks	<b>89¢</b> lb.	Fresh Lean Beef Boneless Bottom Round Roasts	<b>2.99</b> lb.	Fresh Lean Boneless Pork Sirloin Roast	<b>1.69</b> lb.	Shurfine All Meat Wieners Regular/Jumbo 1 lb.	<b>99¢</b>

Dairy	Deli	Frozen
Shurfine Orange Juice From Concentrate 64 oz.	Shurfine Pure Butter Quarters 1 lb.	Breyer's Ice Cream Assorted 48-56 oz.
Kraft Phila. Soft Cream Cheese Assorted 8 oz. Tub	Promise Sticks or Soft Margarine Regular/Light 14-16 oz.	Birds Eye Vegetables Select Varieties 8-16 oz.
Health & Beauty	Seafood	Natural & Gourmet
Nature Made Vitamins BUY ONE GET ONE FREE or Supplements Assorted	Fresh Catch East Coast Cod Fillets \$6.99 lb.	Mrs. Renfro's Gourmet Salsa Assorted 16 oz.
Right Guard Antiperspirant Deodorant Assorted 2-3 oz. stick	Seabest Frozen Tilapia Fillets 1 lb. pkg.	Thai Pavilion Peanut Satay Kit 7.5 oz.
		Bakery
		Fresh Store Baked Italian Bread loaf <b>\$1.19</b>
		Fresh Store Baked Original 8 inch Apple Pie <b>3.99</b>

All Value Size Laundry Detergent Liquid/Powder 63-100 oz.	Progresso Traditional Soups Select Varieties 18-19 oz.	Grocery Bargains	Del Monte Spaghetti Sauce Assorted 26.5 oz.	Chicken of the Sea Solid White Albacore Tuna 6 oz.
Maxwell House Original Ground Coffee Select Varieties 11-13 oz.	Shurfine Kidney or Chili Beans 15 oz.	Betty Crocker Specialty or Mashed Potatoes Assorted 4-7 oz.	Quaker Cap'n Crunch Cereals Assorted 14-16 oz.	Nabisco Family Size Snack Crackers Assorted 12-16 oz.

Professional Pharmacy	Santa Carolina Vistania Wines 1.5 Liter	Beer & Wine		
• We Honor Most Prescription Plans • Medicare Billing • Courteous, Knowledgeable Staff • Free Home Delivery of Prescriptions Monday-Wednesday-Friday • Free Blood Pressure Tester • Durable Medical Equipment Sales & Rental	Yuengling Beer 6 pk. - 12 oz. cans.	Blue Nun Wine 750 ML	<b>6.99</b>	
Killian's Beer 6 pk. - 12 oz. bottles	Alice White Wines 750 ML	Nat'l Bohemian Beer 12 pk. - 12 oz. cans	<b>5.99</b>	



Prices Effective: APRIL	SUPERMARKET PHARMACY	SUPERMARKET
S M T W T F S 14 15 16 17 18 19	121 CENTERWAY-ROOSEVELT CENTER GREENBELT, MARYLAND Visit us online at <a href="http://www.greenbelt.coop">www.greenbelt.coop</a>	Monday thru Saturday 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. 301-474-0522
20		PHARMACY Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. until 7 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. 301-474-4400 Closed Sunday

# Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, <http://www.greenbeltdmd.gov/police/index.htm>, link in left frame to "Weekly Report" or [http://www.greenbeltdmd.gov/police/weekly\\_report.pdf](http://www.greenbeltdmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf). Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

## Robbery

April 2, 9:40 a.m., 9100 block Edmonston Court, a young man approached a woman in a laundry room, displayed a handgun and announced a robbery. The woman stated that she had no money and the young man fled the area on foot. The suspect is described as a black male in his teens, 5'9" with a skinny build, brown eyes and black hair in cornrows, wearing a black sweater, blue pants, orange and green shoes and black gloves.

## Drug Arrest

March 27, 7:44 p.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace, a resident youth was arrested for possession with intent to distribute marijuana in a school zone, possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia after he was apprehended by police on foot patrol. He was released pending action by the juvenile justice system.

## Trespass

March 29, 9:27 p.m., 9200 block Springhill Lane, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with trespass. He was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

March 30, 3:38 p.m., Beltway Plaza, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with trespass and possession of paraphernalia. He was released on citation pending trial.

## Disorderly Conduct

March 29, 1:18 a.m., T.G.I. Friday's Restaurant, a nonresident woman was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. She was released on citation pending trial.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 301-507-6522.



## JOB FAIRS Greenbelt MD

Location: Greenbelt Armory, 7100 Greenbelt Road, Conveniently located off of the Beltway, nearby the Metro, NASA, University of Maryland

## Wednesday, April 16 • 3-7pm

AFLAC....AMTRAK....FEDEX GROUND....GE ENERGY....MD ARMY NATIONAL GUARD....MD STATE DEPT. OF EDUCATION-TROOPS TO TEACHERS....OMNIPLEX WORLD SERVICES CORPORATION....PEPCO HOLDINGS....SHIRLEY CONTRACTING COMPANY .... STATIC POWER CONVERSION SERVICES INC....TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION....USDA-APHIS-MRPBHSR DIV....US BORDER PATROL....STRAYER UNIVERSITY.... AND MORE. CONTACT JOBSITE OR VISIT [WWW.JOBZONEONLINE.COM](http://WWW.JOBZONEONLINE.COM) FOR UPDATES.

## PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION

Location: JT Daugherty Conference Center, 22111 Three Notch Road, Lexington Park, MD (Across from Gate 1)

## Tuesday, April 22 • 3-7pm

SPONSORED BY THE FLEET AND FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER AFLAC .... SEARCH AMERICAN CAREERS....GENERAL DYNAMICS....DCS CORPORATION....AUSLEY ASSOCIATES, INC....BAE SYSTEMS....BOOZ ALLEN HAMILTON....CGW TECHNOLOGIES, INC....CAMBER CORPORATION....EG&G TECHNICAL SERVICES....GENERAL ELECTRIC ENERGY....ITT CORPORATION....PROGENY SYSTEMS CORPORATION....PROGENY SYSTEMS CORPORATION....SABRE SYSTEMS....SERCO.... WERNER ENTERPRISES....CAREER MANAGEMENT OF VA....AND MORE. CONTACT JOBSITE OR VISIT [WWW.JOBZONEONLINE.COM](http://WWW.JOBZONEONLINE.COM) FOR UPDATES.

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Janet.Giles@JobZoneOnline.com

## WSSC H2O Fest Saturday, April 12

On Saturday, April 12 the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) will celebrate H2O Fest with free activities at the T. Howard Duckett Dam in Laurel. Local elementary school students, staff from local government agencies, Boy Scouts and the Patuxent Riverkeeper will be on hand to help the public see how thinking green can protect the Patuxent Reservoirs Watershed. Visitors of all ages can learn how to preserve and protect water sources through a variety of demonstrations. The H2O fest will include Wetland on Wheels, tours of the dam, a demonstration showing oysters' impact on the environment, a wind power display, as well as arts and crafts and environmental products including a SmartCar. There will be a rain barrel raffle.

The event will be near the WSSC T. Howard Duckett Dam at 7400 Brooklyn Bridge Road in Laurel, just west of the I-95 overpass.

## Workshop to Feature Mental Health Court

"Mental Health Court" is the title of a workshop which will be presented by the National Association for the Mentally Ill on Thursday, April 17 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the New Carrollton City offices, 6016 Princess Garden Parkway. Presenters will include Judge Patrice Lewis and the Mental Health Court team. The team will explain how the court works within the Prince George's County correctional system. The benefits and services for mentally ill inmates and their families will be discussed.

## CRIME continued from page 1

filed by police officers was the lowest it has been in the past four years - at 10,471, down 36 percent since 2004.

The department also recorded the lowest number of adult and juvenile arrests since before 2003 - 631 adult arrests compared to 872 in 2004 and 191 juvenile arrests compared to 383 in 2003.

On the other hand, the number of traffic summonses was the greatest recorded since 2003 - at 3,705. Parking tickets issued, 945, were well up from the previous year, 527, but well below the 1,244 issued in 2005. The number of warning tickets issued was greater than last year's figure (5,871 vs. 4,399) but well below the 7,685 issued in 2004. Warning tickets and repair orders issued, 5,871, were greater than those for the previous year but lower than for the years 2003, 2004 and 2005.

According to the public safety analysis provided with the budget, the clearance rate for cases investigated by Greenbelt officers was 19 percent. This compares to a statewide clearance rate of 24 percent and a county clearance rate of 10 percent. The closure rate for Greenbelt increased six percent over the previous year.

The analysis states: "A crime is cleared when the police have identified the offender, have evidence to charge and actually take the offender into custody. Solutions to crimes are also recorded in exceptional incidences where some element beyond police control precludes formal charges against the offender, such as the victim's refusal to prosecute or local prosecution is declined be-

cause the subject is being prosecuted elsewhere for a crime committed in another jurisdiction. The arrest of one person can clear several crimes or several persons may be arrested in the process of committing one crime."

## Patrolling

The number of hours officers foot-patrol was up by 40 percent (6,071 hours) and the number of hours of bicycle patrolling was up 48% (644 hours) over the previous year. However, the number of calls to which K-9 units (officers with trained dogs) responded was down by 37 percent to 211 calls.

Traffic accidents, 1,136, were down slightly from last year and were the lowest since 2003. Compared to last year, property damage accidents increased slightly but were offset by fewer accidents resulting in personal injury. For the second year in a row, no accidents involving fatalities were handled by the Greenbelt police.

According to the analysis prepared for the budget, the Red Light Camera program generated 4,074 citations, a 16 percent increase over 2006. Friday was the day on which drivers most frequently violated red lights. The most citations were issued on northbound Kenilworth Avenue at the Beltway (896) and westbound Greenbelt Road at Mandan Road (245).

In 2006, according to the analysis, the department completed its fifth year of state-mandated tracking of all traffic stops. Officers in 2007 made 4,106 stops, seven percent fewer than in 2006.

# New Listing



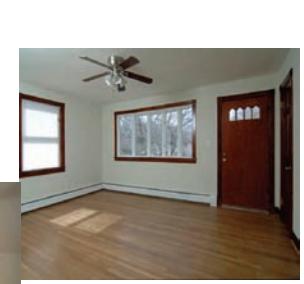
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**4513 29th Street | Mt Rainier | Maryland | 20712**

- Two bedrooms on main level. Master suite on upper floor.
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- Beautiful wood flooring.
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- Spacious yard, fenced, large storage shed.
- Historic 'trolley town'
- Great public transportation.
- MLS #PG6684147



# CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

## AUTOMOTIVE

FOR SALE - 2001 Ford Focus SE wagon, 43K miles, great condition, \$5,500. 240-391-6113

## MERCHANDISE

FREE - If you'll take them away. Solid wood (pine) bench - 58" x 14" x 17½". Computer cart, great for a small space - 26½" x 19½" x 31". Both medium-oak color. Leave message at 301-345-6354.

## NOTICES

CRAFT/BAKE SALE - Trinity Moravian Church, 7011 Good Luck Road, Sat., 4/19, 9-3. Call Jackie, 301-731-0115.

LET'S EAT ITALIAN!! Your Saturday dinner date. All you can eat! Lovely serenade afterwards. A-a-a-a-and a fun Silent Auction. What an evening!! 6 p.m., 4/12/08. Holy Cross Lutheran, Greenbelt. Offered by the Prince George's Choral Society.

## REAL ESTATE - SALE

OPEN HOUSE - Sunday 1-3, 58 Crescent Road #M, \$230,000, MLS#PG6663302, this gorgeous three bedroom, end unit, block townhome, with parking space right in front, is bright and airy, with a fabulous view of the beautifully landscaped front, side and backyards. This home boasts brand new carpet, freshly painted walls, brand new fridge, brand new counter tops and newly glazed bathtub. Available immediately. Go see or buy with ANY Realtor any time. James Hsu, Long and Foster Realtor, 443-535-8000, Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity.

FOR SALE - 1 bedroom with study, GHI brick unit. Near Roosevelt Center, hardwood floors, updated kitchen, updated bath, new fridge and AC. \$205,000. Call Carolyn, Jobin Realty, 703-780-2125.

OPEN HOUSE - Sun., 4/13/08, 12 - 3:30 p.m. 4-B Ridge Rd. 2-1/2 bedroom GHI block. Remodeled kitchen, all new appliances. Remodeled bath, ceramic tile. New Pergo flooring on first floor. New wall-to-wall carpeting on second. Garden-side flows into city woods. \$236,900. Closing help available. 301-345-5943

OPEN HOUSE - Sun., 4/13/08, 12 - 4 p.m. 51C Ridge Road. Enjoy pine tree privacy in this tree lined yard. 2BR frame with charm. Beautiful floors, unusual kitchen design with 5 feet of counter space, remodeled bathroom. Call for appointment, 301-474-7465, or come to open house 4/13. \$195,000

## SERVICES

COMPUTERS - Systems installation, troubleshooting, network, wireless computer design and upgrades, anti-virus, anti-spam, firewall. IBM, Dell, HP, Gateway. JBS, 240-606-6020, 301-474-3946.

LOVING, LICENSED family child care provider with structured activities where children have fun learning. Call now, 301-552-2502.

PATTI'S PETSITTING - Let your furry, feathered, finned or scaled friend stay at home when you go away! Pet-sitting by a Professional Animal Care Specialist. All types of animals! Available for mid-day walks. Insured! Very reasonable rates! Group discounts! References available. Call Patti Brothers at 301-910-0050.

JACKIE'S CLEANING - No job too big or small. Estimates, 301-731-0115.

BARB'S PET SITTING, LLC - Reliable, experienced and professional. GHI residents get special discounts. Midday walks, weekend and holiday appointments. Call Barb, 301-356-0162. References available.

TRANSFER FILM, slides, photos, to VHS or DVD. Tape repair, consumer editing. HLM Productions, Inc. 301-474-6748

GREENBELT PAINTING - Interior/exterior housepainting, handyman services, gutter cleaning, power washing, homeowners' association repairs. Guaranteed lowest prices. Free estimates. [www.HandymanPainters.com](http://www.HandymanPainters.com), 240-671-8952

CARPENTER SERVICES - Handyman, drywall, plaster, paint, mold removal (certified). 301-908-8670

SENIOR HELP around the house - Let me assist you! Deep cleaning, organizing, cooking, laundry, ironing, basic daily chores. Reasonable rates. Call Maria, 301-474-9578.

DECKS - Powerwashed and sealed now and again in fall at season's end. Minor repairs and nails or screws replaced at a reasonable price. Most upper level decks still under \$200. 301-213-3273

SEAN'S LAWNS - Grasscutting/weedwhacking. 301-446-2414 (Old Greenbelt)

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BOXED: \$8.10 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$12.15). Deadline 10 p.m. Tuesday.

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*These offers may not be combined with any other offers, and are valid through April, 2008.*



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The Homespun Ceilidh Band returns for a benefit performance on Saturday, April 12 at 8 p.m. at the Greenbelt Arts Center.

## Homespun Ceilidh Concert April 12 to Benefit GAC

by Carol Griffith

The Homespun Ceilidh Band will perform a Celtic Concert at the Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC) on Saturday, April 12 at 8 p.m. Come for an evening of lively, toe-tapping music from the Celtic tradition that will make listeners want to dance and feel the joy of life and support the GAC.

The Homespun Ceilidh Band began 14 years ago when a group of musicians gathered to perform a benefit concert for GAC. The members decided after the concert to continue performing together and every year since have put on a Celtic Concert featuring music from Scotland, Ireland and other lands influenced by Celtic music along with some Québécois and American music.

The band's name reflects the group's character – homespun, not fancy, and without airs. Ceilidh is a Gaelic word meaning "to visit," so the group considers concert attendees their guests and wants them to participate in their love of making music.

The band has nine members. John Ward, who lived in Greenbelt for many years and was one of the founders of GAC, is the leader and plays fiddle. Also on fiddle is Becky Ross, who, along with Bill Mitchell on hammered

dulcimer, forms a duo called Peat and Barley. Peat and Barley will perform some of their own music during the concert. Trix Whitehall, Ward's wife, who has also been very active in GAC, plays percussion and sings.

Assisting Whitehall on percussion is Jennifer Lubell, who also does Irish step dancing during performances. Glenn Arthur and Mike Stoddard play guitar. Stoddard also plays the bouzuki, flute and pennywhistle. They are joined by Jim Stimson on cittern, lute and guitar, when his schedule permits. Rounding out the band is Felicia Eberling, who plays the viola da gamba, recorder and occasionally the bodhran.

The Homespun Ceilidh Band has made two CDs. "Home," their newest CD, will be offered for sale at the concert. Peat and Barley has also made two CDs, "On the Brink" and "Silver Lining," which will be available for purchase at the concert.

There is a fee. Tickets may be reserved through the box office at 301-441-8770 or purchased (cash or check only) at the box office on the night of the concert. The Greenbelt Arts Center is located at 123 Centerway, beneath the Co-op supermarket.

## Chromatics at Smithsonian To Sing about the Universe

by Mary Moien

Greenbelt's Chromatics will sing about the universe on Saturday, April 19 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum on the Mall. They will be part of Explore the Universe Day, "a mind-blowing blend of science and music."

Throughout the day visitors can examine methods used to study the night sky throughout the ages and learn about early Native American astronomy as well as the latest astronomical research during Family Day: Explore the Universe. This program is produced in partnership with the National Museum of the American Indian. The Chromatics have made a tradition of participating in Family Day.

Greenbelter Deb Nixon says, "It is always a thrill for us to sing our AstroCappella songs at the base of the Hubble Space Telescope!" The Chromatics' AstroCappella project is a marriage

of music and astronomy – over a dozen original "astronomically correct" a cappella songs that describe the wonders of modern astronomy to students and the general public. Greenbelter and AstroCappella co-creator Padi Boyd says the group is happy to have the opportunity to sing to the Air and Space Museum patrons. "Our songs are targeted right at those people who are enthusiastic and curious about space and science and want to know more. We love interacting with the families at the Air and Space museum. Plus, it's a great excuse to experience Washington, D.C. in early spring!"

In addition to the Chromatics science concerts, many other hands-on activities and unique projects and demonstrations will be presented by community groups.

For more information about the event visit <http://www.thchromatics.com/>.

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## Local NAMI Support Group Meets April 21

The local support group of the National Association for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) will meet on Monday, April 21 from 10 a.m. to noon. This group meets in the Hanko Building at Beckett Field, 8511 Legation Road, New Carrollton. Attendees prepare NAMI mailings and do other volunteer tasks while sharing their mental health experiences and each other's challenges and solutions. For information call Marge Owens at 301-345-1572.

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### Brick Townhome On Large Corner Lot

One of the largest yards in GH! Completely remodeled with lots of decorator touches. Large 11' x 17' Master Bedroom. Don't Miss! \$244,995

### Corner Lot

2 Br. townhome on corner lot w/ shed. Nearby common space & playgrounds. Separate dining area/office space. Remodeled kit. \$175,000

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### Great Value - Price Reduced!

This 2 br. townhome has fresh paint, refinished floors, new sink, counter-top, kitchen, new windows, new baseboards, etc. Day to Day \$175,000

**UNDER CONTRACT**

### Townhome With Garage

Just steps away from Roosevelt Center. 2 bedroom townhome with attached garage. Seller offering to pay 6 months of Coop Fee. \$212,895

### Greenbriar

One bedroom condominium with washer & dryer. Neutral carpet throughout. Lots of closet space and balcony with great view. \$175,000

### Townhome With Garage

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### Single Family Home in Original Greenbelt

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What's a landlord? Why you can't make me pay the last 6 months of rent? **UNDER CONTRACT**

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### 2 Bedroom Townhome

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### Renovated Cape Cod Home

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